

News Release

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Cold Regions Scientist Receives Army Award

HANOVER, N.H.—The U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) is honored to announce the recent selection of Dr. Donald K. Perovich as a recipient of the Department of the Army Meritorious Civilian Service Award for exceptional performance of duty.

For a year starting October 1997, Dr. Perovich served as the Chief Scientist of the Surface Heat Budget of the Arctic Ocean (SHEBA) Field Experiment. The award citation reads, "In this capacity, Dr. Perovich has provided an outstanding example of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers commitment to a 'Support for Others' strategy, and has significantly increased the visibility of the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory. Further, the success of the SHEBA field program provides the research community with an unprecedented data set on energy exchange processes, important for Army applications ranging from scene dynamics to the impact of climate change on infrastructure systems. Dr. Perovich's distinctive leadership while serving on the SHEBA field program brings great credit to him, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Department of the Army." Signed: Lt. Gen. Joe N. Ballard, Chief of Engineers and Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In October 1997 the National Canadian Coast Guard Icebreaker *Des Groseilliers* was allowed to freeze in the pack ice of the Arctic Ocean and left to drift as a floating science platform for 13 months. This multi-national project hosted a multi-disciplinary science program focused to better understand the climate of the Arctic so that forecasts of global climate change may be improved. This provided 75 researchers and their support staffs a rare opportunity to study the atmosphere-ice-ocean interactions over the course of a full annual cycle. The last time a comparable effort was undertaken by the United States was in 1975 -- over a quarter century ago.

As Chief Scientist, Dr. Perovich was key in the design and execution of the field program. This required his involvement in both logistical and scientific aspects of the field program, where he addressed numerous and broadly ranging issues. In addition, he led a 13-person research team in the investigation of sea ice-albedo feedback processes during SHEBA.

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